



BOROUGH OF BRIDGWATER

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st. DECEMBER, 1971

BOROUGH OF BRIDGWATER

HEALTH COMMITTEE AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1971.

Chairman:

ALDERMAN C. W. MILNE, J. P.

Vice - Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MRS. A. MITCHELL, J. P.

COUNCILLOR H. J. AYRES

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. REES, J. P.

ALDERMAN G. N. HAYBALL, J. P.

COUNCILLOR C. TESTER

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. O. HODGE

COUNCILLOR J. TURNER

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF 1971

Medical Officer of Health:

R. H. WATSON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medical Officer in Department (Somerset County Council):

A. M. ATKINSON, M.B., B.Ch., D. Obst. R.C.O.G.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

D. J. HUNT, M.A.P.H.L., Assoc. A.R.S.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

R. W. L. READ, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

L. GRIFFITHS, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

D. J. BARDWELL, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(Commenced 12.7.71.)

Meat Inspector:

J. FIELD, Assoc. R.S.H., M.A.M.I.

(Resigned 31.12.71)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1971.

Health Department,
22, King Square,
BRIDGWATER.

Telephone: Bridgwater 4147/8

July, 1972.

To:
The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bridgwater.
Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough, and the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1971. The report is set out in the manner required by the Department of Health and Social Services and is so formulated so that comparison with former years can easily be made. Generally the health of the Borough has been good and notification of infectious diseases has been satisfactorily low. The Vital statistics for 1971 have been generally satisfactory and do not call for any special comment.

Once again I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my grateful appreciation to the Members of the Council for the help and consideration which I have received and for the friendly co-operation extended to me by my fellow officers.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
R. H. WATSON.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	2,083
Population (census 1971)	26,598
Population (Registrar General's estimate) 1971.	26,740
Number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1971.	8,500
Rateable Value on 31st December, 1971.	£1,228,146
Sum represented by 1d. rate on 31st December, 1971.	£11,970

Extracts from VITAL STATISTICS for the year 1971.

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	231	209	440
Illegitimate	23	24	47
	—	—	—
	254	233	487
	—	—	—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18.21
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	9.65
Still Births	1
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	2.05
Total live and still births	488
Infant Deaths (deaths of infants under one year of age)	9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births - total	18.48
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	10.27
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	8.21

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000
total live and still births) 10.25

Maternal Mortality (including abortion) NIL

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births NIL

Deaths

Total number of deaths 335

Death Rate per 1,000 population 12.53

Births

After allowing for inward and outward transfers the Registrar General's figures show that there were 487 births (254 boys and 233 girls) in the Borough during 1971, being 30 births more than in 1970. Of these births 47 were illegitimate. This is 9.65% of the total live births, as compared with 8.32% in 1970.

The birth rate for any area is dependent on the composition of its population, and the Registrar General provides a "Comparability Factor" which is used to enable comparison to be made between the vital statistics of different areas. The product of the local birth rate and the comparability factor for the area is used for this purpose. Adjusted in this way the Standardised Birth Rate was 17.85 per 1,000 of population. The ratio of the Standardised Birth Rate to the national rate was 1.11.

Birth rates for Bridgwater and for England and Wales for the past five years were as follows:-

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Crude Local Birth Rate	18.81	19.42	19.07	17.04	18.21
Standardised Birth Rate	18.43	19.03	18.69	16.70	17.85
England and Wales	17.20	16.90	16.30	16.00	16.00

Still Births

1 still birth was registered during the year.

Deaths

The number of deaths which occurred in the Borough during 1971 was 434. Of these 31 were deaths of non-residents and were transferred to the district in which the persons ordinarily resided. There were, on the other hand 130 deaths of Bridgwater residents registered outside the Borough. The total corrected number of deaths assigned to the Borough was 335 (155 males and 180 females). This was 14 deaths less than in the previous year, and gave a crude death rate of 12.53.

This crude death rate cannot be used to compare the mortality with that of other districts, as the population of all areas are not similarly constituted as regards age and sex distribution. The Registrar General supplies an "Area Comparability Factor" and the crude death rate multiplied by this figure can be compared with the death rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other local area. The Standardised Death Rate so obtained was 12.01 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 11.60 for England and Wales. The actual ratio was 1.11.

Death rates for Bridgwater Borough and England and Wales for the past five years were as follows: -

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Crude Death Rate	13.54	11.93	11.53	13.01	12.53
Standardised Death Rate	12.72	11.57	11.41	13.40	12.91
England and Wales	11.20	11.90	11.90	11.70	11.60

CAUSE OF DEATH	M	F	TOTAL
ALL CAUSES	155	180	335
Other Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	5	7
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	4	9	13
Malignant neoplasm, larynx	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	1	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	-	2
Leukaemia	1	2	3
Other malignant neoplasms	9	6	15
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	1	2
Diabetes Mellitus	1	4	5
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive disease	5	6	11
Ischaemic heart disease	41	31	72
Other forms of heart disease	14	25	39
Cerebrovascular disease	10	26	36
Pneumonia	11	12	23
Bronchitis and emphysema	10	7	17
Peptic ulcer	1	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	2	2
Cirrhosis of liver	2	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	2	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Abortion	-	1	1
Congenital anomalies	1	2	3
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	3	-	3
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	1	2
Other endocrine etc., diseases	1	-	1
Multiple Sclerosis	1	1	2
Other diseases of nervous system	1	6	7
Other diseases of circulatory system	7	14	21
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-	2
Other diseases of digestive system	2	1	3
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	-	1	1
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	-	2	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1
All other external causes	1	-	1

As will be seen from the foregoing table, the principal causes of death were as follows:-

Heart disease	123
Cancer	63
Cerebrovascular disease	36
Pneumonia and bronchitis	40

Deaths. Age Groups 1971.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 Weeks	3	2	5
4 Weeks and under 1 year	3	1	4
1 - 4 years	1	-	1
5 - 14 years	1	2	3
15 - 24 years	2	2	4
25 - 34 years	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	5	5	10
45 - 54 years	10	5	15
55 - 64 years	30	22	52
65 - 74 years	49	35	84
75 and over	51	106	157
	155	180	335

Cancer Mortality

The number of Bridgwater residents dying from cancer was 63 (males 32, females 31) as compared with 70 in 1970. They constituted 18.81% of the total deaths during the year.

The following table shows the localisation of the disease:-

Location	Number of deaths			
	Male	Female	Total	1970
Buccal Cavity etc.	2	1	3	1
Oesophagus	-	-	-	1
Stomach	2	5	7	12
Intestine	4	9	13	8
Larynx	1	-	1	-
Lungs, Bronchus	11	1	12	17
Breast	-	6	6	8
Uterus	-	1	1	2
Prostate	2	-	2	1
Other and unspecified organs	10	8	18	20
Total	32	31	63	70

Cancer of the Uterus

The County Council have now started a scheme whereby cervical smears can be taken with a view to preventing cancer of the womb. The tests are taken by family doctors and are examined at Musgrove Park Hospital.

Cancer of Lungs

The ages at which deaths from lung cancer occurred during the last five years is detailed in the following table:-

Year	Under 15	15/24	25/34	35/44	45/54	55/64	Over 65	Total
1967	-	-	-	-	1	4	8	13
1968	-	-	-	-	1	5	10	16
1969	-	-	-	-	2	2	11	15
1970	-	-	-	-	3	7	6	17
1971	-	-	-	-	1	2	9	12

Infantile Mortality

9 infants under one year of age died during the year. This gave an infantile mortality rate of 18.48 while the corresponding rate for England and Wales was 16.00.

The following table shows the causes of the infant deaths in detail:-

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1 - 4 weeks	1 - 6 months	6 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Pneumonia	-	-	1	1	2
Other diseases of Respiratory system	-	-	-	1	1
Congenital anomalies	1	1	1	-	3
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	3	-	-	-	3

There were 5 deaths of infants during the first 4 weeks of life compared with 7 the previous year.

Deaths from Heart Disease

Of the 335 deaths, heart disease caused roughly 1 in 3 (males 60, females 63). It represented 36.72% of the total deaths from all causes and was equivalent to a death rate of 4.60 per 1,000 of the population.

Pneumonia Mortality

There were 23 deaths from these diseases. The mortality rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.86.

Suicide

1 death was caused by suicide.

Inquests

3 inquests were held by the Coroner in the Borough during the year.

<u>Cause of death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Suicide	1	-	1
Accidental	1	1	2
Total	2	1	3

Population

The 1971 Census population of the Borough was 26,598 which was a decrease of 222 on the estimated population for the previous year. The natural increase in population, that is that excess of births over deaths, was 152.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Population</u>	<u>Natural Increase</u>
1960	25,580	166
1961	25,580	129
1962	25,930	194
1963	26,130	192
1964	26,300	212
1965	26,480	195
1966	26,500	188
1967	26,580	140
1968	26,730	200
1969	26,800	202
1970	26,820	108
1971 (Census)	26,598	152

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICE

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological specimens are sent to the laboratory at Musgrove Park Hospital, which forms part of the Public Health Laboratory Service. Results of investigations are available with the minimum of delay and there is good liaison between the laboratory personnel and the field workers in the Public Health Department.

Examinations carried out during the year include:-

Water samples	25
Ice Cream samples	60
Prepared Foods	19

Hospitals

Hospitals in the area are administered by the South Western Regional Hospital Board, through the West Somerset Hospital Management Committee.

The hospitals are: -

Bridgwater General Hospital	44 beds
Mary Stanley Nursing Home	21 beds
Northgate Hospital	60 beds

Cases of infectious diseases needing hospital treatment, or isolation, are admitted to Taunton Isolation Hospital.

The adaptation of Bridgwater Hospital to cater for short stay surgical cases was completed and the scheme commenced during the year. Patients requiring relatively minor operative procedures are treated and then discharged to the care of their family doctors and practice nurses after 48 hours. This scheme has functioned remarkably smoothly, and has significantly reduced the waiting list in the Mid-Somerset Clinical Area.

The Special Clinic, for the investigation and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases is now held at the Bridgwater General Hospital. Cases attending the clinic for the first time during 1971 was as follows:-

		<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>
Syphilis	3	-
Gonorrhoea	22	14
Other conditions requiring treatment	30	42
Other conditions not requiring treatment	14	30

Health Centre

With the transfer of the Chest and Special Clinics from the Mount Street Health Centre to Bridgwater General Hospital room is now available at the Health Centre for office accommodation. Plans have been prepared and it is anticipated that the Area Health Office will be transferred from King Square to the Health Centre during the present financial year.

Ante-Natal Clinics

Doctors' ante-natal clinics are held three times a week at the Mary Stanley Nursing Home and are staffed by general practitioners who are interested in maternity work. The clinics help to cement the relationship between patient, midwife and doctor and are particularly valuable.

Relaxation Classes

These classes which are still very popular, are now held at the Health Centre on Tuesdays from 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. with an average attendance of 17 expectant mothers per session, and at the Mary Stanley Nursing Home on Wednesday from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. when an average of 12 expectant mothers attend. Following short talks on "Parentcraft" by a doctor, health visitor or midwife, relaxation instruction is given by a physiotherapist.

Mothers Clubs

The Mothers Club which meets at the Health Centre has continued to flourish and has a membership of 61 mothers. The average attendance at each weekly meeting is 40 - 45. After listening to a speaker or seeing an educational film, the mothers enjoy a social evening together. A similar club has now been organised for mothers living at the eastern end of the town and meetings are held every other Monday at 7.30 p.m. at Sydenham Secondary School during term time.

The club has a membership of 40 and the average weekly attendance is 30 - 35.

The mothers also help the Infant Welfare Clinic by taking charge of the play room during the infant welfare sessions.

Child Health

Child Health Clinics are held as follows:-

The Health Centre, Mount Street.	Tuesday, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. Friday, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.
The Community Centre, Parkway.	Thursday, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.

As mentioned in previous reports, Health Visitors and District Nurses are now attached to family doctor practices and to ensure that as far as possible mothers visiting Child Health Clinics meet their own nurse arrangements have been made for Health Visitors attached to practices to hold clinics at different centres on specific days and patients of the various doctors are encouraged to attend the clinics on those days. This arrangement is working satisfactorily.

School Clinics

A school medical officer attends a school clinic each Monday morning from 10.00 a.m. at the Health Centre, Mount Street, and is available to advise parents on any health matters concerning their children. Many parents avail themselves of this additional opportunity to discuss their children's health with the school doctor.

School nurses hold minor ailments clinics at the Health Centre, from 9.00 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Other clinics held at the Health Centre, Mount Street include:-

Orthopaedic Clinic	Monday a.m. and third Wednesday a.m.
Child Guidance Clinic	Tuesday a.m.
Speech Therapy Clinic	All day Monday
	Wednesday p.m., Thursday a.m. and Friday all day.
Chiropody	2nd and 4th Thursday a.m. and p.m.
Marriage Guidance Clinic	Wednesday a.m.
Simon Trust Clinic	Monday and Thursday p.m.

Ambulance Service

The new ambulance station at Friarn Street has functioned satisfactorily and efficiently. Ambulances are controlled by radio communication from a central control at Taunton and a satisfactory service is provided.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47.

A number of cases were assisted through informal action, and in no case was it necessary for the Council to take statutory action to secure the admission of an old person to suitable accommodation.

Welfare of Old People

The various organisations to which reference was made in previous reports have continued to play an important part in contributing to the welfare of old people. The inclusion of chiropody treatment as part of the National Health Service has helped to fill a great need and has been much appreciated by the old people.

The Council assist the W. V. S. in providing meals on wheels for old people and this worthwhile service is greatly appreciated by the recipients. An average of 170 meals per week are distributed.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the cases of notifiable diseases that occurred in the Borough during 1971. The table is drawn up after making the necessary corrections in diagnosis by either the practitioners or the Medical Officers at the Isolation Hospitals.

Disease	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65-80	Age Unknown	Total	Admitted to Hospital	
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Whooping cough	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	
Measles	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	
Tuberculosis:																	
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	3	-	
Non-respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Undulant fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	
TOTAL	1	1	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	11	3	

During the previous year 372 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified.

Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis)

No cases were notified during the year.

Measles

3 cases of measles were notified during the year.

Scarlet Fever

1 case was notified.

Tuberculosis

3 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis and no non-respiratory case of tuberculosis were notified in 1971 as compared with 4 respiratory cases and 1 non-respiratory in 1970.

	<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>Non-respiratory</u>
Number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at 31.12.71.	73	11
Number of new cases during year	3	-
Number of deaths during the year	-	1

The following table shows sex and age group of cases notified during the year:-

Age	Under 5	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over	Age Unknown	Total
Male	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Female	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

B. C. G. Vaccine

In order to raise the immunity of school leavers to tuberculosis, vaccination with B. C. G. vaccine was offered to children between the ages of 13 and 14 years attending schools in the Mid-Somerset Divisional Area. 673 received the preliminary skin test, to determine whether they had in fact already experienced some infection with tuberculosis. Of these 624 were vaccinated with B. C. G. vaccine.

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were notified.

Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria were notified.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Refuse disposal is by Controlled Tipping and use as tipping sites is made of the many claypits surrounding the town. The tip at present in use is situated close to a residential area, and the strictest control over tipping technique is essential if nuisance is to be avoided. With neighbouring Local Authorities the Council are investigating the feasibility of treating refuse before disposal, probably by pulverisation, and so making better use of available tipping sites.

Water Supplies

Regular bacteriological examination has been made of the water going into supply.

Results were as follows:-

Ashford Supply

12 samples were tested after treatment and all gave excellent results.

Durleigh Supply

13 samples were tested after treatment and all but one gave excellent results.

Chemical Analysis - of Water in Distribution

Reports were as follows:-

Ashford Reservoir

	<u>Parts per million</u>
Physical Characters	Clear and bright. Hazen units less than 5. Very slightly alkaline.
Reaction	7.5
pH	3.0
Free Carbon Dioxide	0.05
Free Chlorine	0.05
Total Chlorine	0.05
Total Solids	245.0
Total Alkalinity (As CaCO ₃)	125.0
Carbonate Hardness	125.0
Non-Carbonate	35.0
Total Hardness	160.0
Chloride (as Cl)	17.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (as N)	0.002
Albuminoid	0.070
Nitrate	3.5
Nitrite	NIL
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in four hours at 27° C.	0.55
Sediment	NIL
Iron	NIL
Copper, Lead and Zinc	NIL

Durleigh Reservoir

	<u>Parts per million</u>
Physical Characters	
Reaction	Clear and bright.
pH	Hazen units less than 5.
Free Carbon Dioxide	Very slightly alkaline.
Free Chlorine	7.45
Total Chlorine	3.0
Total Solids	0.10
Total Alkalinity (As CaCO ₃)	0.20
Carbonate Hardness "	240.0
Non-Carbonate " "	120.0
Total Hardness "	120.0
Chloride (as Cl)	50.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (as N)	170.0
Albuminoid " "	22.0
Nitrate " "	0.008
Nitrite " "	0.160
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in four hours at 27° C.	1.8
Sediment	NIL
Iron, Copper, Lead and Zinc	1.05
	NIL

Both supplies showed moderately hard waters containing some organic pollution.

Swimming Baths

Treatment of the water in the swimming baths is regularly supervised. Modern plant enables the water to be turned over every six hours and at the same time to be filtered and purified. Bacteriological examination of the water was carried out on 15 occasions all of which gave excellent results.

Sewage Disposal

The Council's scheme to resewer the Borough is proceeding. At the time of preparation of the report sanction of the Department of the Environment to the Council's proposals to construct a sewage treatment works at Chilton Trinity together with the West Bank Drainage Scheme at an estimated cost of £1,400,000 has been received. The new treatment works will also cater for sewage from the Southern Trunk Sewer serving the villages south of the Polden Hills in Bridgwater Rural District.

Housing

Number of permanent dwellings in Borough	8,947
Number of permanent dwellings owned by Local Authority	3,669
Number of houses demolished or closed during the year as a result of formal or informal action	6

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection	
	For Slum Clearance	For Other purposes	For Slum Clearance	For Other purposes
Local Authority	-	38	-	56
Private Enterprise	-	54	-	39

Advantage has also been taken of Improvement Grants made under the Housing Acts, 1949-54. 76 applications were received and 59 were approved.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

The following particulars indicate the action taken under Part I of the Factories Act, 1961.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	5	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	141	131	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	6	-	-
Total	153	141	2	-

	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instructed	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Insp.	To H.M. Insp.		
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S. 2)	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary conveniences (S. 7)	-	-	-	-	-	
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	5	4	-	-	-	

	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 133(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome prem.	Notices served	Prosecutions
Brush Making	1	-	-	-	-	-
Making of wearing apparel	81	-	-	-	-	-
Total	82	-	-	-	-	-

STAFF EXAMINATIONS

Medical examinations carried out by the Department in connection with new appointments to the Council's staff, and in connection with the Superannuation Scheme and the Workmen's Sickness Benefit Regulations, were as follows:-

<u>Department</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Town Clerk	1	2	3
Borough Engineer	25	5	30
Borough Treasurer	-	-	-
Housing	1	4	5
Health	-	-	-
Library	-	3	3
	27	14	41

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To:

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Bridgwater.

Madam, Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1971.

HOUSING

In July, 1971 a White Paper entitled "Fair Deal for Housing" was presented to Parliament. This document reported that there are still 2 million houses which can be classified as slums, there are a further 2 million which are without bathrooms or indoor sanitation.

Dealing with the improvement of rent controlled houses it is pointed out that since August, 1969, despite the new provisions provided by the Housing Act, 1969 less than 4,000 controlled dwellings have been improved up to the qualifying standard of repair and amenity. This relates to the procedure whereby an owner can make application to the Rent Officer for an increase in rent phased over a period of four years, provided all amenities have been or will be provided and the house is in a good state of repair.

In Bridgwater we have received 57 applications for "qualification certificates" up to the end of 1971 and it is pleasing to note that in all but eight cases the schedules of repair which have been prepared by my department have been completed, and these houses have been brought up to a good standard of repair in addition to having a bathroom with indoor W. C. etc. Out of the 57 tenanted houses 33 were without a bathroom and internal W. C., and I venture to submit that without the new provisions of the 1969 Act few, if any, of these tenanted houses would have been improved. However, if we want to encourage owners to improve their houses and put them in good repair, especially tenanted houses, then the Council should consider a scheme for General Improvement Areas so that the environment of the houses can be upgraded, which in itself would be some encouragement to those owners concerned.

During the year demolition orders were made in respect of 6 houses and one house was closed in Union Street.

The problem of dealing with Union Street is not a simple one, and with the rapidly escalating cost of housing and the strong desire of many of the residents to remain in the street it is not an easy matter to resolve. I am of the opinion that with a scheme of improvement as envisaged by a general improvement area this part of the town can continue to be used for residential purposes for many years to come.

During the year numerous complaints concerning housing conditions were dealt with and a total of 69 repair schedules were sent out.

The inspection of accommodation occupied by applicants on the Housing Waiting List still entails a considerable amount of work and this has now been extended to include applicants residing near to, but outside of the Borough Boundary. Altogether 106 houses were inspected for this purpose.

12 new cases of overcrowding were reported and 8 were abated during the year so that the total on the register is now 11. No formal action was required.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Operation of the General Provisions of the Act

This part of our work, dealing with the Health, Welfare and Safety of some 3,483 persons employed mainly in Offices and Shops has received special attention this year. A total of 497 inspections were made which is nearly double last years figures.

439 premises were registered, an increase of 13 from last year. The number of recorded infringements against the Regulations was double that found in 1970 but this must be set against the extra inspections carried out, and in my opinion does not suggest any sudden lowering of standards.

Special attention was paid to lifts, hoists, dangerous practices, floors, passages and stairs. A list of the contraventions found appear in the table at the end of this section. The number of written notices totalled 15, the remaining contraventions were dealt with verbally during the inspections.

Registration

The whole of the premises coming within the scope of the Act have been registered. The Act places a duty on the occupier of the premises to notify the Local Authority in writing if he intends to use premises which will be subject to Registration.

Exemptions

No exemptions are in force.

Accidents

The number of accidents reported during 1971 was nine, which is three more than last year. The injuries were fortunately of a minor nature, being mainly foot or knee injuries, strained backs and head cuts.

Prosecutions

There has been no necessity to institute legal proceedings.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	21	129	41
Retail Shops	11	254	115
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	22	7
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens	7	34	32
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	1,384
Retail Shops	1,371
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	565
Catering Establishments open to the Public	158
Canteens	5
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	3,483
Total Males	1,766
Total Females	1,717

Analysis of Contraventions

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	20	16	Floors, Passages & Stairs	11
6	Temperature	28	17	Fencing exposed part Machinery	1
7	Ventilation	10	20	Health and Safety (Lifts and Hoists)	6
8	Lighting	4	22	Dangerous Practices and Conditions	2
9	Sanitary Conveniences	7	23	Prohibition of Heavy Work	1
10	Washing Facilities	9	24	First Aid General Provisions	26
11	Supply of Drinking Water	3	48	Notification of Accidents	1
12	Clothing Accommodation	5	49	Registration of Premises	22
13	Seating Facilities	4	50	Information for Employees	45
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	1		Total	206

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries are made in cases of notifiable disease and disinfection is carried out free of cost. In other cases a charge is made. The disinfecting plant at Market Street is functioning satisfactorily.

FOOD CONTROL

(i) There are 248 premises within the Borough concerned with the handling of food as a principal part of their business. Many of the food shops are of supermarket size and the total business involved is based on a trading population of 54,000 persons. In the table which follows the number of food premises are classified in accordance with their main trading activity. A total of 1,369 visits were made by the public health inspectors in order to deal with a wide range of food control matters, and 45 written notices were sent out.

The standard for our inspections are set by The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970 and The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966. At the end of this report is a table setting out improvements which have been completed during the year.

During the year it was decided to carry out a series of tests to find out the efficiency of cleaning of food preparing surfaces, equipment and hand washing. These tests were made at a bacon wholesale depot, slaughterhouse, supermarket and school canteens with the co-operation of the staff concerned.

The "Agar Sausage" technique was used since it is a widely accepted method for the control of plant hygiene in industry. An incubator was built within the department and after several adjustments was found to operate at $36^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 3^{\circ}$ over a period of 24 hours quite successfully.

A total of 125 tests were carried out, and it was possible to demonstrate visibly on the surface of the agar, after incubation, the effectiveness or otherwise of the cleaning operations. The equipment provided us with an excellent teaching aid in order to demonstrate the importance of a properly regulated cleaning and sterilising system in order to avoid a high bacterial count on these surfaces.

A lot of attention has been given to the date coding of short life food sold in our shops. We have established that there have been instances where prepacked food such as cakes, meat and dairy products have been on sale long after the recommended shelf life given to the particular commodity. We have advised on measures to reduce the possibility of this happening. Stale meat products badly handled can cause food poisoning and, therefore, specially prepared leaflets giving advice on the handling, storage and preparation of these products were sent to all shops, canteens, restaurants, etc..

The Food Standards Committee are investigating the Date Marking of Food and they are taking evidence from all sections of the food industry and other interested bodies such as the Association of Public Health Inspectors. Their report is expected to be published in 1972.

	No. of Premises	Premises fitted to comply with Regs. 16 and 19 (Hand Washing and Food & Equipt. Washing Fac.)
Grocers	57	57
Butchers	19	19
Bakers & Confectioners (incl. distribution centres)	13	13
Restaurants, unlicensed Hotels and Kiosks	22	22
Greengrocers	11	11
Confectioners (sweetmeats)	25	25
Wet Fish	2	2
Fried Fish Shops	10	10
Licensed Premises (incl. off licences)	58	58
Cooked Meats etc.	3	3
Factory Canteens	12	12
School Canteens	16	16

(ii) Bacteriological Sampling of Food

It was decided to discontinue the practice of taking routine samples of food for this purpose. The results over a number of years were always satisfactory and it was felt by us, and the Public Health Laboratory Service that little useful purpose was being gained by continuing this exercise.

(iii) Foreign Bodies in Food

Twenty complaints were received of foreign bodies in food. This represents a very small proportion of the actual cases which occur, for many people do not complain at all and take no action and a large percentage take the matter up with the retailer concerned. The decision is very much a personal matter, but I would make the point that if the public want high standards of food control then they have an important contribution to make. Many food manufacturing companies take every precaution possible in order to produce clean food of a high standard, but there are others who do not. The public are not in a position to make an evaluation.

Every case is investigated fully and if the premises are within reasonable distance of Bridgwater an inspection is arranged, otherwise the nearest local authority public health inspectors' department is asked to co-operate. By discussion with the Company's management we have been able to recommend many improvements to their hygiene standards, and in every case the advice is readily accepted.

It was found necessary to take two prosecutions during the year under this particular section.

(iv) St. Matthews Fair

This event is one of the highlights of Bridgwater's Year and brings special responsibilities to our department. There were 64 food stalls, most of them placed along West Street and nearly all of them are regular visitors to the Fair. It would be interesting to know the total quantity of food sold during the 4 open days, all of which has to be produced in the limited space available to each stall. Years ago food produced under these conditions was always suspect, but we are now able to insist on a very high standard of hygiene together with fresh products, this, together with the fact that the food is for immediate consumption, ensures that there are no tummy upsets from bacteriological contamination. Children who eat large quantities of ice-cream mixed with highly spiced meat products are sometimes not quite so fortunate.

(v) The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 is 110.

Ice-Cream Premises	82
Potted, Pressed, Pickled and Preserved Foods	28
The number of firms retailing milk is	40
The number of registered dairy premises is	8

All milk sold in the Borough is either Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested.

(vi) The number of inspections of registered food premises is given in the summary at the end of the report.

(vii) In connection with the visits to food premises the following foods were condemned.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Meat at Slaughterhouse	43	3	88
Meat at Retail Shops		2	28
Cooked Meats and Meat Products		16	37
Bacon		11	80
Canned Meat		5	74
Canned Vegetables		7	41
Canned Fruit	1	11	26
Frozen Foods		13	36
Other Foods	4	17	65
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	52	9	27
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The meat, after staining, was sent to a sterilisation plant and other foods disposed of at the Corporation Refuse Tip.

(viii) Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959 - 1963

The number of premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream is as follows:-

Registered for manufacture and sale	3
Registered for sale	82

In all three instances of manufacture, brands of cold mix are used.

65 samples of ice-cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year and these were graded as follows:-

Grade 1	60
Grade 2	3
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	1

These results are satisfactory, apart from the Grade 3 and Grade 4 samples, which, when further samples were taken, proved to be satisfactory. Advice was also given to the retailers concerned.

MEAT INSPECTION

All slaughtering in the Borough is carried out at a privately owned slaughterhouse at the Cattle Market. It is well provided with refrigerated space and a good cooling hall. A larger water main was installed during 1968 so that there is a plentiful supply for all purposes. Individual paper towels are provided for wiping down each carcase and there is a sterilising tank for knives, saws etc.

The owners of the slaughterhouse decided towards the end of 1969 to operate a 5 day week and to close the slaughterhouse on Saturdays and Sundays. This was welcome news for the Public Health staff who for many years had worked week-ends in order to maintain 100% meat inspection.

All meat passed as fit for human consumption is stamped in accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

The general quality of meat inspected was very good and the great majority of carcases rejected were from animals slaughtered for emergency reasons.

Carcases Inspected

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number Killed	1,195	99	1,015	17,745	33,607*	53,661
Number Examined	1,195	99	1,015	17,745	33,607*	53,661

*includes 120 sows and 9 boars.

No horses were slaughtered within the Borough.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total
<u>All diseases except T. B. & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	3	9	123	33	308	476
Parts or organs condemned	232	41	18	1,001	7,453	8,745
% of the no. inspected affected with diseases other than T. B. or Cysticerci	19.7	50.5	13.9	5.8	23.1	17.2
<u>T. B. only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parts or organs condemned	-	-	-	-	115	115
% of the no. inspected affected with T. B.	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.2
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	1
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total
<u>Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for</u>						
(a) T. B.	-	-	-	-	1,579	1,579
(b) Cysticercosis	12	-	-	-	-	12
(c) Other	4,346	7,342	8,251	3,794	71,420	95,153
Total (lbs.)	4,358	7,342	8,251	3,794	72,999	96,744

Conditions Rendering Carcase Meat and Organs Unfit for Human Consumption

Disease or condition	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Abnormal ordour	-	-	644(7)	116(3)	-
Abscesses	540	45	12	30	1,322(2)
Actinomycosis & actinobacillosis	197	-	-	-	-
Anæmia	-	-	-	-	76(1)
Arthritic conditions	19	62	-	74	959
Ascariasis	-	-	-	-	4,259
Bruising	259	1,450	26	156(2)	454
Cirrhosis	91	30	4	-	2,276
Congestion	-	-	-	-	2,136
Contamination (tank water)	-	-	-	-	2,015
C. Bovis	12	-	-	-	-
C. Ovis	-	-	-	17	-
C. Tenuicollis	-	-	-	138	-
Decomposition	208	-	60	38	18
Emaciation, pathological	-	562(1)	384(4)	339(8)	1,894(20)
Fascioliasis	1,339	215	-	78	-
Fatty Change	-	43	-	8	-
Fever (pyrexia)	-	-	918(8)	66(1)	302(3)
Hydatid cysts	-	-	-	24	-
Immature	-	-	90(4)	-	-
Imperfect bleeding	473(1)	-	-	-	166(1)
Inflammatory conditions	10	3	-	5	9,646
Jaundice (icterus)	-	-	-	-	290(2)
Lymphatic Leukæmia	-	-	-	-	118(1)
Mastitis, acute septic	-	-	-	97(1)	-
Moribund	-	958(2)	1,207(28)	198(3)	1,663(14)
Muellerius capillaris	-	-	-	742	-
Nephritis, incl. "white spot"	-	5	4	-	6
Oedema	40	744(1)	92(2)	179(3)	80(1)
Other diseases or conditions	-	2	2	1	11
Parasitical conditions	-	-	-	542	-
Pericarditis	-	4	-	17	814

Disease or condition	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Pericarditis, acute septic	-	-	-	78(2)	1,115(12)
Peritonitis, acute septic	-	1,422(2)	110(1)	193(3)	1,481(13)
Pleurisy	42	12	-	11	2,280
Pleurisy, acute septic	-	470(1)	-	131(3)	3,545(34)
Pneumonia	48	-	31	414	11,610
Pneumonia, acute septic	-	-	-	-	400(3)
Pyæmia, incl. joint-ill	640(1)	538(1)	2,171(49)	102(4)	21,682(195)
Septicaemia	420(1)	-	1,337(11)	-	650(5)
Swine Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	11
Telangiectasis	20	160	-	-	-
Tetanus	-	-	200(1)	-	-
Toxaemia	-	617(1)	959(8)	-	114(1)
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1,579
Tumours	-	-	-	-	14
Urticaria	-	-	-	-	13
 Total weights (in lbs.)	4,358(3)	7,342(9)	8,251(123)	3,794(33)	72,999(308)

The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases where the whole of the carcases and their organs were rejected.

Total weight of meat and offals rejected: - 43 tons, 3 cwts., 3 qrs., 4 lbs.

Tail-biting in Pigs

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of pigs affected by tail-biting coming into the Slaughterhouse. The Ministry recommend that in each case the carcase is split so that a more careful examination can be carried out to determine the spread of pyogenic organisms from the site of injury. There has been a reluctance in the trade for pigs to be split particularly when the appearance of the bitten tail is not too angry looking.

Because of this a record has been kept for the full twelve month period and out of a throughput of 33,607 pigs 738 carcases were split because of tail-biting, and of these 144 (or 19.5%) were rejected as being unfit for human consumption.

It was also ascertained that the condition of the tail bore no relationship to the extent of infection subsequently discovered. The investigation has proved to the satisfaction of all concerned the importance of splitting carcases in every case of tail-biting.

CLEAN AIR

On the industrial side there is an increasing trend for large steam users to convert their boilers to using North Sea Gas with a stand-by provision for oil firing. In parts of the district where smut emission has caused problems from time to time despite the use of special additives, this has been a most welcome change for the residents who have suffered oil smut on their paintwork and washing. The emission of sulphur dioxide gases will also have been reduced, and since this is a national trend will make a worthwhile contribution to clean air in our industrial cities.

On the 1st October, 1969 sections 1 to 4 of the Clean Air Act, 1968 came into operation. Section 1 has particular importance as it makes it an offence to permit dark smoke to be emitted from any industrial or trade premises. This does not include dark smoke from a chimney of a building which is already dealt with by the Clean Air Act, 1956.

This section applies to the burning of all manner of rubbish on open ground within trade premises. Certain exemptions are allowed such as burning of waste material from the demolition of a building; surfacing and resurfacing of highways; burning of diseased carcases etc.. However, the indiscriminate burning of trade waste including old motor vehicles is no longer allowed.

One of our larger industrial concerns made immediate arrangements to tip any waste material which could not be disposed of in their waste heat boiler and no longer burn any on open ground. This system has continued to operate successfully during 1971 and only on two occasions was it found necessary to take informal action with regard to indiscriminate burning of trade waste on open ground.

General observations are made of all factory chimneys and advice given when required.

Installation of all new furnaces is notified to the department under the provisions of the Act.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints about noise vary considerably and in some cases have not been substantiated. The new noise level meter has enabled us to measure noise with a much greater degree of accuracy and provide more reliable figures when taking it up with the Companies concerned.

Whilst there is no legal definition of what constitutes a noise nuisance it may be said to apply when a noise is so loud or so irritating in character and which is either so prolonged or repeated as to interfere materially with the ordinary accepted standards of human comfort.

As in the past more of the complaints relate to industrial noise particularly during the hours of darkness. Without exception, all the industrial concerns are most co-operative and carry out any measures which after discussion seem appropriate. Unfortunately residents in areas which are on the fringe of the industrial parts of the town do have to accept some industrial noise during the hours of darkness but in no case was this found to be generally unacceptable by those residents.

SWIMMING BATHS

Samples of water in the baths at the Broadway Lido were sent for bacteriological examination regularly throughout the season. 18 samples were examined, all were satisfactory.

CARAVANS

There are three licensed sites within the Borough. One is licensed for a single caravan which is used in winter only. The other sites are mainly residential, each caravan being connected to mains water, electricity and sewer system. Both large sites satisfy the conditions of the licence.

The Caravan Site situated off Colley Lane contained just over 30 caravans by the end of the year. All are of the large residential type with connections to mains water and sewer. During the year numerous complaints were made by the residents about conditions such as industrial noise, including passing trains, no public telephone and lack of nearby shops, etc..

Whilst there are no contraventions of the conditions of the licence for this site I am of the opinion that the amenities provided for the residents are very poor. It must be said, however, that the planning permission, on appeal, expires on the 30th April, 1978 and the owner of the site has been naturally reluctant to carry out costly works.

The whole surrounding area including the site is zoned for industrial purposes and many of the complaints received from the caravan dwellers are industrial in character. These points will have to be taken into account when a renewal of planning permission is sought.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

No. of sewer treatments - 2. No. of refuse tip treatments - 16.

No. of complaints received of rat and mouse infestation

	<u>Type of Property</u>	
	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1. Number of properties in district	10,885	11
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	429	-
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	246	-
(ii) Mice	174	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats/mice for reasons other than notification	6,290	11
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	55	1
(ii) Mice	30	-

During the year 16 full scale treatments were carried out on the refuse tips at the Cattle Market and Saltlands and the former tips at Bath Road and Bristol Road.

Two sewer treatments were completed, the first consisting of the prolonged baiting of some 105 manholes, showed a take of 11, and the second consisting of 50 manholes with a take of 6.

These results are most satisfactory and reflect the excellent work carried out throughout the year by our Rodent Operators.

On the 8th October, 1971 Mr. R. E. Rowles retired from the post of Rodent Operator after 31 years service with the Council. It is fitting that in this part of the report we record our appreciation for the dedicated service he gave to the department.

STAFF

Mr. D. J. Bardwell, our student public health inspector, passed his final qualifying examination in July and was subsequently appointed to the staff of public health inspectors.

S U M M A R Y

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Environmental Health

Water Supply	42
Drainage	274
Stable and Piggeries	15
Factories	199
Outworkers	73
Rodent Control	137
Insect Pest Control	31
Caravan Sites	16
Swimming Baths	15
Atmospheric Pollution	168
Pet Shops and Kennels	9
Licensed Premises	82
Noise Nuisances	84
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises - General Inspections	192
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises - Other Visits	305
Miscellaneous	378

Housing

Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	91
Visits paid to the above Houses	180
Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	25
Visits paid to the above Houses	74
Inspections under the Housing Points Scheme	155
Houses inspected in connection with Overcrowding	19
Visits paid to the above Houses	19
Verminous premises inspected	8
Visits paid to the above Premises	12
Qualification Certificates - Inspections	57
Qualification Certificates - Other Visits	68
Miscellaneous	54

Infectious Diseases

Enquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	21
Suspected Food Poisoning enquiries	8
Miscellaneous	4

Meat and Food Inspection

Visits to Slaughterhouses	737
Visits to Butchers	67
Visits to Confectioners	95
Visits to Fishmongers and Poulterers	20
Visits to Grocers	526

Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers	29
Visits to Bakers and Confectioners	60
Visits to Fried Fish Shops	36
Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors	10
Visits to Ice -Cream Premises	80
Visits for Ice -Cream Samples	69
Visits to Restaurants and Catering Establishments	146
Visits to Food Preparing Premises	60
Visits to Licensed Premises	64
Visits to Market Stalls	139
Visits to Mobile Shops and Delivery Vans	32
Miscellaneous	50

Explosives

Visits in connection with Explosives	20
Visits in connection with Petroleum Spirit	52

WORK DONE

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970.

Washing - Food and Equipment

Sinks provided or renewed	5
Water heaters provided or renewed	1
Drainage boards provided or renewed	4
Equipment cleansed or renewed	27
Dish washing machine installed	1

Washing - Hands

Washbasins provided or renewed	15
Hot water provided	3
Nailbrushes provided	15
Notices provided	11
Soap and towel provided	2

W. C. Compartments

Cleansed or renewed	5
Redecorated	7

Food Rooms

Walls repaired	3
Walls cleansed	19
Ceilings cleansed	9
Ceilings repaired	3
Floors repaired	7
Rooms redecorated	34
Floors cleansed	16
Shelving resurfaced	16

General

S.D. Bins provided or renewed	7
Food raised 18" above ground	7
Protection of food from risk of contamination	30
First Aid Kits provided	7
Overclothing provided	2
Work surfaces renewed	2
Rooms ventilated	2
Lighting provided or improved	3

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

Name and addresses inscribed on vehicles or stalls	3
First Aid Kits provided	2
Use of tobacco discontinued	1
Protection of food from contamination	6
Cleanliness improved	3
Overclothing provided	4

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963.Section 4 - Cleanliness

Decoration of rooms	18
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Section 5 - Overcrowding

Overcrowding abated	1
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Section 6 - Temperature

Provision of adequate heating	4
Provision of thermometers	27

Section 7 - Ventilation

Provision of adequate ventilation	5
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Section 8 - Lighting

Provided or improved	4
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Section 9 - Sanitary Conveniences

W.C's provided	2
W.C's repaired	1
W.C's Compartments redecorated	7
Gents and Ladies signs provided	3
Provision of artificial lighting	2
Ventilation provided or improved	7

Section 10 - Washing Facilities

Provision of hot water supply	8
Provision of cold water supply	1
Provision of wash hand basin	3
Provision of towels	4

<u>Section 12 - Clothing Accommodation</u>	
Accommodation provided or improved	8
<u>Section 13 - Sitting Facilities</u>	
Provided or made adequate	4
<u>Section 16 - Floors, Passages etc.</u>	
Floors repaired	11
Handrail provided	4
Staircase repaired	2
Floor coverings renewed	3
<u>Section 17 - Machinery</u>	
Provision of guards	1
<u>Section 20 - Health and Safety</u>	
Lifts & hoists repaired or renewed	4
<u>Section 22 - Dangerous Practices and Conditions</u>	
Remedied	3
<u>Section 23 - Prohibition of Heavy Work</u>	
Remedied	1
<u>Section 24 - First Aid</u>	
Provision of first aid box	13
Existing first aid boxes brought up to standard	10
<u>Section 49 - Notification of Employment of Persons</u>	
Notification received after reminder from L. A.	23
<u>Section 50 - Regulations</u>	
Abstract displayed	9
<u>Factories Act</u>	
Sanitary conveniences repaired	4
Artificial lighting provided to W. C's	1
Sanitary conveniences cleansed	2
Sanitary conveniences redecorated	3
I. V. S. provided or improved	1
<u>Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.</u>	
Removal of harbourage	8
Drains repaired or sealed off	9
Manhole covers renewed	3
Sub-floor ventilators renewed	11
Cages fixed to drain ventilating shafts	10

I would like to take this opportunity of recording my thanks and appreciation for the support given to me by Members of the Council, for the co-operation of colleagues in other departments, and not least, for the loyalty and diligence of my own staff throughout the year.

I am, Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

D. J. HUNT,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

